# House File 107 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 107 BY FRY

## A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to supervision requirements for licensed
- 2 marital and family therapists, mental health counselors, and
- 3 social workers, and including effective date provisions.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. Section 154C.3, Code 2021, is amended by adding
- 2 the following new subsection:
- NEW SUBSECTION. 4. Supervision. The board shall not, by
- 4 rule or other means, require that supervision be completed
- 5 in-person as a condition for an applicant to receive a license,
- 6 a reciprocal license, or a renewed license under this chapter.
- 7 Sec. 2. Section 154D.2, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 8 follows:
- 9 154D.2 Licensure marital and family therapy mental
- 10 health counseling.
- 1. An applicant for a license to practice marital and family
- 12 therapy or mental health counseling shall be granted a license
- 13 by the board when the applicant satisfies all of the following
- 14 requirements:
- 15 1. a. Possesses a master's degree in marital and family
- 16 therapy or mental health counseling, as applicable, consisting
- 17 of at least sixty semester hours, or its equivalent, from a
- 18 nationally accredited institution or from a program approved
- 19 by the board.
- 20 2. b. Has at least two years of supervised clinical
- 21 experience or its equivalent as approved by the board.
- 22 Standards for supervision, including the required
- 23 qualifications for supervisors, shall be determined pursuant to
- 24 the requirements in subsection 2 and by the board by rule.
- 25  $\frac{3}{100}$  c. Passes an examination approved by the board.
- 26 2. The board shall not, by rule or other means, require any
- 27 of the following for the licensure or renewal of a license to
- 28 practice marital or family therapy or mental health counseling:
- 29 a. In-person supervision.
- 30 b. Supervised clinical experience hours in excess of the
- 31 hours required by the board of social work for the licensure
- 32 of any class of social worker.
- 33 Sec. 3. Section 154D.4, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
- 34 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- 35 b. A person who practices marital and family therapy or

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- 1 mental health counseling under the supervision of a person 2 licensed under this chapter as part of a clinical experience as 3 described in section 154D.2, subsection  $\frac{2}{3}$  1, paragraph "b". BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK AND BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE Sec. 4. The board of social work and the board of behavioral 5 — RULES. 6 science shall amend their administrative rules pursuant to 7 chapter 17A to remove any requirement for supervised clinical 8 experience and supervised professional practice to be completed 9 in-person as a condition for the licensure of marital and 10 family therapists, mental health counselors, and social workers 11 pursuant to chapters 154C and 154D. The board of social work 12 and the board of behavioral science shall replace all licensing 13 requirements for in-person supervision with the ability to have 14 supervision requirements completed electronically. Sec. 5. EMERGENCY RULES. The board of social work and board 15 16 of behavioral science may adopt emergency rules under section 17 17A.4, subsection 3, and section 17A.5, subsection 2, paragraph 18 "b", to implement the provisions of this Act and the rules 19 shall be effective immediately upon filing unless a later date 20 is specified in the rules. Any rules adopted in accordance 21 with this section shall also be published as a notice of 22 intended action as provided in section 17A.4. Sec. 6. 23 EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate 24 importance, takes effect upon enactment.
- 25 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 28 This bill relates to supervision requirements for certain
- 29 licensed individuals and provides an effective date.
- 30 The bill provides that the board of social work and the board
- 31 of behavioral science shall not require that supervision of an
- 32 applicant for a license as a social worker, marital or family
- 33 therapist, or mental health counselor be completed in-person.
- The bill provides that the board of behavioral science shall
- 35 not require supervised clinical experience hours for marital or

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- 1 family therapists or mental health counselors in excess of the
- 2 hours required for social workers. The bill makes a conforming
- 3 change to Code section 154D.4(2)(b).
- 4 The bill directs the board of social work and the board
- 5 of behavioral science to amend their administrative rules to
- 6 remove any requirement for supervised clinical experience and
- 7 supervised professional practice to be completed in-person as a
- 8 condition for the licensure of marital and family therapists,
- 9 mental health counselors, and social workers.
- 10 The bill provides that the board of social work and the board
- 11 of behavioral science may adopt emergency rules and creates an
- 12 immediate effective date upon enactment.